

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01566 031731Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 IO-14 /035 W

-----031759Z 057163 /45

O R 031646Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5807

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1566

FOR IOP/M

FOR IBS/PA, PASS IPS

STATE FOR AF/E AND AF/S

NAIROBI FOR VOA CHANCELLOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: JOSHUA NKOMO'S PRESS CLUB SPEECH IN LUSAKA, JUN 2, 1977

RHODESIAN NATIONALIST LEADER, JOSHUA NKOMO, LAST NIGHT ATTACKED THE MANNER IN WHICH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS CURRENTLY SEEKING A SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA.

SPEAKING AT A DINNER OF THE LUSAKA PRESS CLUB, MR. NKOMO SAID THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TOLD THE BRITISH CONSULTATIVE GROUP DURING A MEETING HERE WEDNESDAY, THAT THE EFFORTS TO DRAW UP A CONSTITUTION BASED ON A "CONSENSUS" OF THE THINKING OF VARIOUS PARTIES INTERESTED IN A SETTLEMENT IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT.

HE CHARGED THAT THE BRITISH METHOD OF HOLDING SEPERATE TALKS WITH VARIOUS PARTIES THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN AFRICA IS EXPLOITING WHAT HE CALLED "IGNORANCE AND ACQUIESENCE".

AFTER THE LENGTHY WEDNESDAY TALKS WITH THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP, BRITAIN, ACCORDING TO MR. NKOMO, HAD AGREED THAT NO CONSTITUTION CAN COME OUT OF THE CURRENT TALKS.

THE BRITISH, HE SAID, ASSURED HIM THAT ANY DOCUMENT PRODUCED BY THE GROUP WOULD ONLY SERVE "TO FIND OUT WHETHER THERE IS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01566 031731Z

A POSSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT IF A CONFERENCE IS TO BE CALLED".

MR. NKOMO ALSO SAID THAT A CONSTITUTION FOR AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE "CANNOT BE DRAWN UP BY A GROUP OF PEOPLE MEETING IN THE SAME WAY AS THOSE COUNTRIES THAT GOT INDEPENDENCE FROM BRITAIN OUT OF A POLITICAL SITUATION."

HE SAID RHODESIA IS "A WAR SITUATION" AND TO GET A CONSTI-TUTION "WE HAVE TO REMOVE THE CAUSES OF THE EXISTING WAR AND

ONLY THOSE CONCERNED IN THIS WAR MUST ATTEND THAT CONFERENCE."  
AN INDEPENDENT CONSTITUTION, HE WENT ON, WOULD "EVOLVE" FROM  
REMOVING THE CAUSES OF THE WAR.

THE NATIONALIST LEADER SAID THAT THE PRESENT BRITISH EFFORTS  
IS DESIGNED "TO COLLECT ALL AND SUNDRY PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEVER  
BEEN ENGAGED IN THIS GAME, AND OUT OF THEIR NAIVETIES GET THEM  
TO AGREE TO THE BRITISH MANEUVERING."

HE SAID "IF BRITAIN ATTEMPTS TO CONFRONT US IN THAT WAY, THEN  
THE CONFRONTATION WILL COME AND WE WILL STAND FOR IT."

MR. NKOMO ALSO DISCLOSED THAT HE HAS NOW DECIDED TO PERSONALLY  
DIRECT THE ARMY IN THE WAR AGAINST THE MINORITY REGIMZ OF  
RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER IAN SMIT.

SAID MR. NKOMO: "I HAVE DECIDED TO DIRECT THE ARMY MYSELF.  
AND I INTEND WITH MY COMRADES (IN THE PATRIOTIC FRONT)  
THAT THIS TASK WE HAVE SET OURSELVES TO DO MUST BE COMPLETED  
WITHIN A SPECIFIED PERIOD THAT WE HAVE GIVEN OURSELVES AND  
YOU CAN BE CERTAIN IT IS NOT IN TERMS OF YEARS."

THE RHODESIAN NATIONALIST TOLD THE DINNER AUDIENCE, ATTENDED  
BY LOCAL AND FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS, REPRESENTING BOTH EASTERN  
AND WESTERN COUNTRIES, THAT CONTRARY TO CRITICS' CONTENTIONS  
THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WAS MERELY A MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE,  
THE ARMED WING OF THE FRONT IS BEING FULLY UNITED.

HE SAID: "WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, WE SHALL SURPRISE THOSE  
WHO WANT TO TELL A BIG LIE. THAT INDEED WE MEANT UNITY AND WE  
ARE UNITED.

HE HOWEVER CALLED ON THOSE WHO ASSISTED THE FRONT, IN HIS  
WORDS, "NOT TO MAKE THINGS DIFFICULT" BY DOING THINGS THAT  
WOULD TEND TO CREATE DIVISIONS IN AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE.  
EXPANDING ON THIS, MR. NKOMO, WHO TURNS 60 NEXT TUESDAY,  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 01566 031731Z

SAID WHILE THERE MAY BE MORE THAN ONE POLITICAL PARTY IN A  
FREE ZIMBABWE, THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE ARMY, AND IT IS THE RE-  
SPONSIBILITY OF THE FRONT TO ENSURE THIS END IS ACHIEVED.  
BRANDING RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER SMITH AS "AN INTERNATIONAL  
CRIMINAL", HE TOLD HIS AUDIENCE THAT WHAT BLACK NATIONALISTS  
WERE DOING NOW IS TRYING TO "FREE SMITH AND HIS  
COLLEAGUES FROM THEMSELVES".

"OUR WAR IS NOT AGAINST WHITE PEOPLE," HE SAID, "IT IS AGAINST  
AN EVIL SYSTEM," CONTROLLED BY PERSONS OF WHITE SKIN.

SAID MR. NKOMO: "AND YET, I DO BELIEVE MYSELF THAT THERE  
ARE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE OF WHITE SKIN THAT COUNTRY WHO  
WOULD MAKE VERY GOOD CITIZENS OF ZIMBABWE, BUT BECAUSE OF  
A SYSTEM THAT HAS BEEN MADE TO SURVIVE BY WESTERN COUNTRIES,  
SMITH IS BUSY DESTROYING THE FUTURE OF OUR WHITE CITIZENS."  
HE SAID WHAT THE WHITE MINORITY REGIME DID NOT REALIZE WAS THAT  
THEY WERE DOING HARM TO THEMSELVES.

HE FURTHER WARNED THAT IF BRITAIN CONTINUES TO ALLOW MR. SMITH  
TO "MURDER AND PLUNDER" THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE, THE TOTAL  
RESULT WILL BE THAT THE WRATH OF THE MASSES IN THAT COUNTRY

WILL BE DIRECTED AGAINST WHITES BECAUSE THE RHODESIAN LEADER IS WHITE -- AN EVENTUALITY HE SAID WOULD BE "VERY UNFORTUNATE". "WE DID SAY IN GENEVA THAT WE WANTED A TRANSFER OF POWER FROM A MINORITY OF OUR PEOPLE TO THE MAJORITY OF OUR PEOPLE, OF WHOM THZ MINORITY ARE PART," MR. NKOMO SAID. GOING BACK TO HIS PREDICTION OF AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE WITHIN MONTHS, HE DECLARED: "ZIMBABWE, WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, WILL BE RUN BY AN INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE. THAT IS NOT VERY FAR OFF." BUT HE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS INDEPENDENCE WILL NOT BE WHAT HE CALLED "THE DR. OWNE TYPE OF INDEPENDENCE," BUT ONE ENDORSED BY THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE. HE CONDEMNED THE INCURSIONS INTO MOZAMBIQUE EARLY THIS WEEK BY RHODESIAN SECURITYFORCES AS AN ATTEMPT BY MR SMITH TO SHIFT WORLD ATTENTION FROM THE RHODESIAN QUESTION TO NEIGHBORING STATES. HE ALSO ATTACKED THE SLOW RESPONSE OF THE WEST IN CONDEMNING UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 LUSAKA 01566 031731Z

THE RAIDS, AND SAID EVEN WHEN THESE RESPONSES CAME THEY WERE "NOT CATEGORICAL". MR. NKOMO ALSO CLAIMED THAT THE SO-CALLED "OPERATIONAL AREAS" HAVE NOW COMPLETELY FALLEN UNDER THE CONTROL OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS BECAUSE, HE EXPLAINED, THE ENTIRE CIVIL ADMINISTRA-TIVE MACHINERY IN THOSE AREAS HAS COLLAPSED AND THE SALISBURY GOVERNMENT HAS LOST CONTROL OF THE SITUATION. ITEM BURNS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPEECHES, NEGOTIATIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LUSAKA01566  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770198-0994  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LUSAKA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770694/aaaaddwo.tel  
**Line Count:** 147  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 125fc785-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2290141  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JOSHUA NKOMO'S PRESS CLUB SPEECH IN LUSAKA, JUN 2, 1977 RHODESIAN NATIONALIST LEADER, JOSHUA NKOMO, LAST NIGHT ATTACKED THE MANNER IN WHICH THE BRIT ISH GOVERNMENT IS CURR  
**TAGS:** PINT, ZA, RH, (NKOMO, JOSHUA)  
**To:** USIA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/125fc785-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009